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2014 Oklahoma Research Day

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07. History

University of Central Oklahoma

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Abstracts from the 2014 Oklahoma Research Day

Held at the University of Central Oklahoma

04. Liberal Arts

07. History

04.07.01 The Value of Marriage: Exploring the Plight of Victorian Irish Birth Mothers in London, 1842-1859

Jessica, Sheetz-Nguyen

University of Central Oklahoma

This poster will address research methodology, quantitative forms of analysis, and the qualitative and ethical lessons that can be drawn from lone mother petitions to the Foundling Hospital in London. While the point of the poster appears simple, in reality, it will illustrate the difficult choices young women made to preserve the lives of their infants who had no fathers, and their respectability, which would have been damaged forever if their employers, family, and friends learned about their indiscretion, to become pregnant before marriage.

04.07.02 The Rise and Fall of the Civil War Aeronautic Corps: An Operational Review of its Service from 1860 to 1863.

Forrest, Paige

University of Central Oklahoma

The American Civil War not only served as a pivotal moment in American history, but also as a testing ground for new military concepts that forever changed the battlefield. The first use of the telegraph for frontline communications, the implementation of rapid firing machine guns, and the development of armored naval vessels brought the art of warfare into the modern industrial era. Among the numerous innovations that transformed the American Battlefield of the 1860s, the deployment of reconnaissance balloons received considerable attention throughout the United States and the world. However, despite their favorable depiction in the American press, the Union's aerial reconnaissance program failed to survive the conclusion of the war. Based upon the operational reports and personal correspondences of key Northern officers and civilian officials it appears that the use of manned balloons to obtain critical intelligence remained doomed from its conception. The major flaw involved the failure of the airships to maintain the dependability essential for repeated mission as required by the battlefield generals. Although some of the problems related to poor military administration and conflicting personalities, the majority of the complications stemmed from factors related to the insufficient scientific resources to overcome adverse weather conditions and hostile terrain.

04.07.03 Lady Waterford, Louisa Anne Beresford, A Woman of Substance

Cheryl, Caffee

University of Central Oklahoma

Lady Waterford, Louisa Anne Beresford, A Woman of Substance The original objective of this research was to explore the connections between a group of social elite women in London and the East End Hospital. Five full days in the British Library proved to be too short to find any connections of the women, but led to the exploration of Louisa Stuart Beresford (1818-1891), the third marchioness of Waterford. The discovery of several manuscripts, an edited diary, and a portrait in the national gallery started an obsession into the life of one woman who lived through Victorian England and Ireland. The marchioness, a woman of many talents, lived a rich life despite the heartache she endured. At a time when noble landowners were viewed as heartless and uncaring, the Waterfords displayed immense compassion and toiled continuously to assist the tenants of their counties. Lord Waterford lived the life of a selfish, self-centered, wealthy playboy until Louisa Stuart entered his life and changed him into a philanthropic leader of his community. The Waterford's together dispel the myth that the wealthy class lacked compassion and generosity. Most material uncovered was found in larger libraries and book depositories. Further research in Ireland and England is required to continue the study into the Waterford involvement in the Irish famine.

04.07.04 Balfouria

J Michael, Johnson

University of Central Oklahoma

The state of Israel dominates the headlines. A Jewish home was created by a British Prime Minister. This dream became a reality. However, through research at the British Library and the Houses of Parliament, this was not an easy task for A. J. Balfour. The research conducted begins with an idea, legislation, and reality. The new home for the Jewish people seemed promising. However, the events of WWII and the French claim on portions of Palestine started hostility that still exists today.

04.07.05 Huaihai Campaign: Chinese Civil War

kevin, yang

University of Central Oklahoma

The Chinese Civil War was the third largest war in the twentieth century and the most important battle of that war was the Huaihai Campaign (1948-1949), which was fought near Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province between Kuomintang nationalists and Chinese communists. The pro-American nationalist government lost the battle in January 1949 and Nanjing and Shanghai soon fell to Mao Zedong's communist forces. The Cold War thus entered a new era and the American policymakers would soon face a new dilemma - A Communist China.

04.07.06 From 50 to 8,000 Confucius Students: Why Oklahoma kids want to learn Chinese?

Yue, Guo

University of Central Oklahoma

The purpose of my research is to examine why and how Confucius Institute became popular in Oklahoma. Focus on the impact of Confucius Institute on the role of university and the feedback from students, parents and teachers. Analyze how the Confucius class functions, what they teach, what kind of textbook they use and how does this relate to the theory of China Soft Power and questions about CI. Provide field study on impact and result of China's Confucius Program and cultural policies through interviews of high school students, teachers, and parents about their intention to learn Chinese.